



Economic Development & Improvement Commission (EDIC)

Regular Meeting – Thursday March 10, 2016 – 12:00 Noon
Town Manager's Conference Room, First Floor, Town Hall
AGENDA

1. Call to order - The meeting was called to order at 12:00 PM
2. Attendance and Quorum (6 members required) Gioia Zack, Judy Keane, Ken Lesser, Marco Pace, Dorcas McHugh, Peter O'Keefe.

Also in attendance: Leslie Civitello, Chamber of Commerce, Peter Gillespie, Planning and Economic Development Director, Jeff Bridges, Town Manager and Denise Bradley, Assistant Planner

3. Old Business
 - a. Vacant Property Updates
 - 442-444 Silas Deane Highway - Beaver Brook Animal Hospital has proposed conceptual plans to demolish the two existing buildings and redevelop the property to relocate the veterinary hospital from 60 Beaver Road.
 - 446 Silas Deane Highway - On 3/15 PZC agenda for exterior site improvements
 - 1000 Silas Deane Highway - Still negotiating
 - 295 Ridge Road - Appeal of the Planning & Zoning Commission decision ongoing.
 - b. Grant Project Status
 1. Heritage Walk – HFGP and CT Humanities - Peter Gillespie discussed the planned unveiling ceremony for May 28th.
 2. STEAP 2014 – 1000 Silas Deane Highway/Façade Funding - Waiting for real estate negotiations to be concluded.
 3. STEAP 2016 – Solomon Welles House Improvements - Waiting for the grant decision to be made.
 4. Façade Application – 965 Silas Deane Highway – Lagana's Plaza - Peter Gillespie detailed the facade request. He noted the Finance Subcommittee's recommendation to not fund the project. Dorcas McHugh made a motion to approve the facade request. Peter O'Keefe seconded the motion. A brief discussion ensued regarding the request. Several members noted that the request was for maintenance not overall improvements. All voted in opposition. The motion failed.
4. New Business
 - a. Welcome Wagon - A brief discussion ensued regarding the status of this initiative.
 - b. Budget 2016/2017 - A brief discussion ensued regarding the proposed budget.
 - c. 2016 EDIC Initiatives – It was decided that a Marketing subcommittee meeting was required in order to discuss the details of the Great Elm Initiative.
5. Other Business - There was no other business to discuss.

6. Reports Town Manager's Report – Jeff Bridges reported on the following:

- Board of Education and Manager Budget hearing dates.
- Streetlight project and open access WiFi in Old Wethersfield.
- Spring Paving Schedule
- Town Engineer's Retirement

Town Council Liaison's Report – Anthony Spinella - No report was given.

Planning & Zoning Commission Liaison's Report – Peter Gillespie discussed items on the upcoming agenda.

Tourism Commission Liaison's Report – Dorcas McHugh reported on recent Tourism agenda items.

Chamber of Commerce Liaison's Report –Leslie Civitello reported on the following:

- Business Expo April 7th 4-7PM at the Keeney
- Car Show April 23rd
- Annual Awards Dinner May 11th 5:30 at the Wethersfield Country Club

7. Chairman's Report – No report was given.

8. Sub-Committee Reports Marketing and Communications - Nothing additional to report.
Financial Strategies - Nothing additional to report.

9. Minutes – Revise to reflect that Gioia Zack and Peter O'Keefe were not in attendance.

10. Next Meeting – Thursday April 14, 2016

11. Correspondence

12. Adjournment - Ken Lesser made a motion to adjourn. Judy Keane seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 1:10 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Bradley, Assistant Planner